September 15, 2000

Robert J. Burns, Policy Analyst National Governor's Association Hall of States, Suite 267 444 North Capitol Street Washington, DC 20001-1512

Dear Mr. Burns:

The State of Mississippi is applying for the "Policy Academy for State Officials on Improving Oral Health Access and Outcomes for Children." We are committed to improving access to oral health care and will dedicate the resources necessary to participate fully in this project.

I have designated the Division of Medicaid in the Office of the Governor as the lead agency for this endeavor. Mrs. Rica Lewis-Payton, Executive Director, will serve as the chair of the policy academy. The participants who have been selected to serve on the team for our State have a vital interest in oral health care.

We hope that you and the Center for Best Practices will look favorably on Mississippi's application. If you should have any questions, please do not hesitate to call on Mr. Michael Boyd, Policy and Planning Director, at (601) 359-2971.

Very truly yours,

RONNIE MUSGROVE

RM:mtb